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Updating arrangements for the formulary should be decided upon and implemented at a local level.

Introduction to monographs on Anti-D Immunoglobulin

Medicines for Anti-D Immunoglobulin

Anti-D immunoglobulin is administered to prevent maternal production of Rhesus (RhD) antibodies as a result of exposure to RhD positive fetal blood cells.

Fetal blood cells may enter the maternal circulation during pregnancy and at the time of childbirth. If the fetal blood cells are RhD-positive and the woman RhD-negative the mother may produce RhD antibodies which then cross the placenta and may cause haemolytic disease of the newborn. This can be prevented by the administration of RhD antibodies as passive immunisation which stops the woman from producing her own antibodies in 99% of cases if sufficient anti-D immunoglobulin is administered.

It is recommended that it is administered to non-sensitised RhD negative women in the following situations:

- Routine antenatal anti-D prophylaxis at 28 week gestation
- Post a sensitising event such as haemorrhage, invasive procedures or abdominal trauma in accordance with local protocols.
- Post delivery of a RhD positive baby

The use of anti-D immunoglobulin for routine antenatal anti-D prophylaxis (RAADP) is in addition to the administration of anti-D immunoglobulin following potentially sensitising events. Its use in either indication is not affected by prior use in the other.

NHS boards should have local guidelines in relation to the administration of Anti-D immunoglobulin and they should be used in conjunction with these monographs.

Guidelines should contain detail of the doses to be used in each situation and the information to be discussed with the women.

Monographs on medicines for Anti-D Immunoglobulin

Anti-D immunoglobulin – Human 1500 units D-Gam® and Rhophylac® Routine Antenatal
Anti-D Immunoglobulin – Human (D-Gam®) 500 units Routine Antenatal
Anti-D Immunoglobulin – Human (D-Gam®) Antenatal for potential sensitising event
Anti-D Immunoglobulin – Human (Rhophylac®) antenatal- for potential sensitising event
Anti D Immunoglobulin – Human 1500 units (D-Gam® and Rhophylac®) postnatal

All of the above are on the Midwives Exemption list

References

1. British Committee for Standards in Haematology (BCSH) Guideline for the use of anti-D immunoglobulin for the prevention of haemolytic disease of the newborn . Qureshi H., et al. Transfusion Medicine © 2014 British Blood Transfusion Society Accessed 16.1.2020 <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/tme.12091>
2. NICE Technology Appraisal Guidance - No.156 Routine antenatal anti-D prophylaxis for women who are rhesus D negative August 2008. Reviewed March 2015. Accessed 16.1.2020 <http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/TA156>